Functioning of directorate of Health Services

1335. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-report which appeared in the Hindustan dated 10th June 1992 regarding functioning of Directorate of Health Services, if so, the details in this regard;

(b) whether it is a fact that Directorate of Health Services had not followed the directives of Supreme Court in regard to admission in post-graduate medical courses; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to resolve the issue involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) According to the All India Scheme approved by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India the allotment of post-graduate medical courses are made on the basis of four criteria *viz.* merit, subject-choice, college-choice and eligibility computed on the basis of information furnished by the candidate. The particular candidate referred to in the news report has been allotted a seat in accordance with the above criteria and information furnished in the application. She has filed a Writ Petition in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The matter is, therefore, sub-judice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Laws to combat aids

1336. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a symposium on "Laws to combat AIDS" was held in New Delhi on June 21, 1992 as reported in the Statesman of June 22, 1992;

(b) if so, what precise suggestions and observations which were made for evolving a law to effectively combat the spread of AIDS in India; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) The Statesman of June 22, 1992 does not contain any news report regarding any symposium on 'Laws to combat AIDS'. However, there is a news-item captioned 'Debate on law to combat AIDS'. The debate was not, as per the news report, the product of any symposium etc. It gives the opinions of doctors, jurists and sociologists/social scientists on the enactment of a law for mandatory testing of blood for HIV infection. While the doctors are reported to be in favour of a law, the sociologists/social scientists are not in its favour. The legal experts are reported to be of the view that the AIDS law must be drafted with certain caveates so that it may stand the test of constitutional validity and it does not result in dental of faundamental rights to the AIDS patients.

(c) The Government have reiterated its support to the policy of humane treatment of persons effected by AIDS or found HIV positive in accordance with the WHO resolution.

Purchase of medicines by N.D.M.C.

1337. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NDMC purchases medicines worth crores of rupees annually for distribution to its various dispensaries/Hospitals in the city